REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject patent application are respectfully requested.

The listing for the Hiranaga et al. article on PTO-1449 form for the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) of May 9, 2006 is not initialed. A copy of this article was submitted with the IDS and is part of the USPTO image file wrapper for this application. Consequently, Applicants respectfully request that a form with an initialed listing for this article be returned with the next office action.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication that claims 11, 14, 15 and 20 contain allowable subject matter.

Amendments of a formal nature have been made to claims 2, 7 and 16.

Claims 1-10, 12, 13, 16-19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as allegedly being "anticipated" by Yano et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,985,404). While not acquiescing in this rejection or in the characterization of Yano et al. in the office action, claims 1, 6 and 13 have been amended. The following remarks make reference to the amended claims.

Claim 1 is for a dielectric recording apparatus in which a voltage corresponding to data and a bias voltage are combined and a polarity of the bias voltage is determined based on a polarization direction corresponding to the data to be recorded. By way of example without limitation, these features are based on disclosure at page 5, lines 20-22 and elsewhere in the subject patent application. Because the polarity of the bias voltage

is determined depending on the polarization direction corresponding to the data to be recorded in non-limiting example embodiments described in the specification, an appropriate bias voltage corresponding to the polarization direction can be applied to the dielectric material. See page 22, lines 20-24.

Yano et al. uses a pulse voltage for recording data. See col. 8, lines 20-22, 25-26 and 31-32. There is no disclosure, for example, of combining this pulse voltage with a bias voltage as claimed. Consequently, Yano et al. cannot anticipate claim 1 or its dependent claims 2-5.

Claims 6 and 13 call for a direct current bias voltage to be used when data is reproduced. By way of example without limitation, this feature is based on subject matter originally presented as part of claims 2 and 14 and elsewhere. Because a direct current bias voltage is used in non-limiting example embodiments described in the subject patent application, data can be reproduced with a good S/N ratio and at high speed. See page 8, lines 15-17 in the subject patent application.

Yano et al. applies an appropriate high-frequency bias voltage, not a direct current bias voltage, for reproducing the data. See Yano et al., col. 8 lines 47-50. Consequently, Yano et al. cannot anticipate claims 6 and 13 or the claims that depend therefrom.

The pending claims are believed to be allowable and favorable office action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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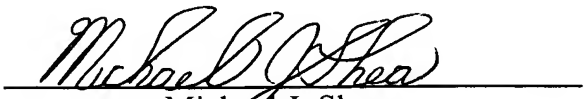
By: 

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